

## THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

August 22, 2013

Dear Tribal Leader,

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is pleased to announce a workshop on tribal grants access at the Hubert Humphrey Building in Washington, DC, on October 8 - 9, 2013. Tribes have consistently told HHS leadership about their difficulties in successfully obtaining HHS grant funding; as a result, the Department, with recommendations from the Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee, has made improving tribal access to HHS grants a priority.

In December 2011 over 200 HHS staff participated in a "Supporting Tribal Access to Grants" training and workshop designed to increase their knowledge of tribal communities. On April 17, 2012, HHS hosted a webinar for tribal communities titled, "Finding HHS Grant Opportunities for Tribes." Both the workshop and webinar received positive feedback but also indicated that more work is needed. In response, the Department has worked hard to develop a workshop that both tribes and HHS staff can participate in together to improve tribal access to grants.

The workshop is designed to be informative and interactive and will include presentations, panel discussions, and technical assistance. In addition, the Department will unveil and provide technical assistance for the newly developed Grants Eligibility Tool that was designed to compliment other grant tools that tribes currently use to track grant-funding opportunities.

Please RSVP to the event by emailing your name, tribe, and number of attendees to <u>consultation@hhs.gov</u>. Due to space constraints, attendance will be capped at 75 participants.

The Department values your participation and feedback on how we can further improve tribal accessibility to grants and continue to foster relationships with tribal communities.

Kathleen Sebelius